

recording, on the recording medium, a file including the image data or voice data generated in said generating step using the file name determined in said file name determining step.

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60. (New) A recording method according to Claim 59, wherein the information pre-recorded on the detachable recording medium is information for determining a plurality of characters to be used for a file name.--

REMARKS

Claims 57 to 60 now are pending in the subject application, the independent claims being Claims 57 and 59. Claims 13 to 15, 17, 18, 21 to 40, 45 to 52 and 57 have been cancelled. Claims 57 to 60 are newly presented.

In the Official Action dated October 3, 2002, Claims 21 to 35, 37 to 39 and 45 to 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,633,678 (Parulski). Claim 57 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,640,204 (Tsutsui), in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,862,217 (Steinberg). Claims 36 and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over the Parulski '678 patent, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,899,581 (Kawamura), and Claims 13 to 15, 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over the Parulski '678 patent, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,943,093 (Anderson).

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The rejections of the claims over the cited art respectfully are traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, Claims 13 to 15, 17, 18, 21 to 40, 45 to 52 and 57 have been cancelled in favor of newly presented Claims 57 to 60, which recite more clearly various novel features of the present invention and have been presented to provide Applicants with an additional scope of protection commensurate with the disclosure. No new matter has been added.

The present invention relates to a novel recording device and method. In one aspect, as recited in new independent Claim 57, the present invention relates to a recording device for recording at least one of image data and voice data on a detachable recording medium. The recording device comprises generating means for generating image data or voice data to be recorded, retrieving means for retrieving information pre-recorded in the detachable recording medium for determining a file name, file name determining means for determining a file name by combining a character and a serial number in accordance with the information retrieved from the detachable recording medium, and recording means for recording, on the recording medium, a file including the image data or voice data generated by the generating means using the file name determined by the file name determining means.

In another aspect, independent Claim 59 recites similar features with respect to a method for recording image data or voice data on a detachable recording medium.

In each aspect, an advantage inherent in the structure/method is that information pre-recorded in the detachable recording medium is retrieved, and a file including image data or voice data is recorded using a file name determined by combining

a character and a serial number in accordance with the information retrieved from the detachable recording medium. In this manner, as disclosed in greater detail in the present application, information exclusive to a user may be stored in each respective, detachable recording medium, and can be changed for each detachable recording media, when plural users share an operational apparatus. Thus, each user can manage his/her voice or image files without interference by other users. Moreover, multiple attribute information for respective multiple users, does not have to be distributed to and stored in multiple storage media or operational apparatuses to provide service for multiple users.

Applicant submits that the prior art fails to anticipate the present invention. Moreover, Applicant submits that there are differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The Parulski '678 patent relates to an electronic still camera for capturing and categorizing images, and describes an electronic still camera for capturing and categorizing images, including a categorization feature which enables a user to establish an appropriate category. However, Applicant submits that the Parulski '678 patent fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-discussed features of the present invention. Rather, the Parulski '678 patent is understood merely to disclose a system in which the category information can include "externally-generated category information, such as names and optional text ... and/or graphics overlays ..., which is entered via a host computer and uploaded to the camera through [a removable storage device]," and where, after selecting a category, "the image is captured and the category information is stored in the removable storage device." (See, Col. 3, lines 59-66 and 41-42; Col. 4, lines 56-57

and line 66 to col. 5, line 3). The Parulski '678 patent further is understood to disclose that "the memory card 24 contains additional memory to store header files containing [the] category information helpful in providing classification of the images." (Col. 5, lines 9-11). Nowhere is the Parulski '678 patent understood to disclose or suggest the recited features relating to file name determining information pre-recorded in a detachable memory or recording media, as disclosed and claimed in the present application.

The Tsutsui '204 patent relates to a method and system for processing DOS information within a digital still camera. However, Applicant submits that the Tsutsui '204 patent fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-discussed features of the present invention. Rather, the Tsutsui '204 patent merely is understood to disclose a system and method in which file acquisition table (FAT) and directory (DIR) information associated with a file may be read from a detachable memory, edited in a digital still camera, and stored back in the detachable memory with the image data. (See, Col. 4, lines 14 to 50). Nowhere is the Tsutsui '204 patent understood to disclose or suggest the recited features relating to file name determining information pre-recorded in a detachable memory or recording media, as disclosed and claimed in the present application..

The Steinberg '217 patent relates to a method and apparatus for in-camera encryption, and disclose a method and system in which a camera can avoid any stage wherein unencrypted image data exists. However, Applicant submits that the Steinberg '217 patent fails to disclose or suggest the above-discussed features of the present invention. Rather, the Steinberg '217 patent is understood merely to disclose a system of in-camera encryption, in which all image data picked up by a camera is encrypted, and an encrypted password is required to permit a user to view and print images. (Col. 2, line 65

to col. 3, line 9.) Nowhere is the Steinberg '217 patent understood to disclose or suggest the recited features relating to file name determining information pre-recorded in a detachable memory or recording media., as disclosed and claimed in the present application.

The Kawamura '581 patent relates to a photographing-mode-dependent image data recording method in a digital camera using hierarchical storage to record still images at a different level than sequential images, and discloses a photographing system that adds externally input photographer information. However, Applicant submits that the Kawamura '581 patent fails to disclose or suggest at least the above discussed features of the present invention. Rather, Applicant submits that the Kawamura '581 patent merely discloses a system in which a file name and directory are made in accordance with a selected photographing mode, where the form of the attribute information is predetermined as a form peculiar to the device. Nowhere does the Kawamura '581 patent disclose or suggest at least the recited features relating to file name determining information pre-recorded in a detachable memory or recoding media, as disclosed and claimed in the present application.

The Anderson '093 patent relates to a software driver digital camera system with image storage tags, and a method for systematically generating one or more image groups to relate a plurality of images as a single group. However, Applicant submits that the Anderson '093 patent fails to disclose or suggest the above-discussed features of the present invention. Rather, the Anderson '093 patent is understood merely to disclose "a camera capable of selecting a photographing mode and saving ... images according to the selected mode." (Col. 5, lines 21-52.) The Anderson '093 patent further is understood to

disclose the feature of tagging images according to a selected mode (col. 5, line 66 to col. 6, line 1). Nowhere does the Anderson '093 patent disclose or suggest at least the recited features relating to file name determining information pre-recorded in a detachable memory or recoding media, as disclosed and claimed in the present application.

Nowhere is the prior art of record understood to disclose or suggest the above-discussed features relating to file name determining information pre-recorded in a detachable memory or recoding media, as disclosed and claimed in the present application.


For the above reasons, Applicant submits that independent Claims 57 and 59 are allowable over the cited art.

Claims 58 and 60 depend from Claims 57 and 59, respectively, and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional feature in combination with the features of its respective base claim, and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is fully responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submits that the Application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience respectfully are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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